

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ISO-00 L-03 AID-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 ABF-01

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P 110914Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 981

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 7655

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, PK

SUBJ: PL 480 FUNDS FOR AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PAKISTAN STUDIES

REF: STATE 172245, ISLAMABAD 6408

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S PROBLEMS PROVIDING FUNDING AIPS ANY SOURCE. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. SHOULD PARTICIPATE THIS PROGRAM, IF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES JOIN AND EXTEND ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SUPPORT. GOP FAVORABLE ACTION IN PROVIDING GRANT OF RS.500,000 CLEARLY AN INDICATION OF ITS DESIRE TO GIVE US-PAKISTAN CULTURAL EXCHANGES NEW MEANINGFUL BOOST AND ESTABLISH MUTUALITY SUPPORT RELATIONSHIPS WHICH COULD PORTEND IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD FOR FUTURE PROGRAMMING. IN OUR VIEW PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY NEW AND IMPORTANT AND IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AND ENCOURAGED.

FYI: GOP CONSIDERED THIS PROJECT SO IMPORTANT THAT PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO WISHED TO MAKE IT PUBLICLY KNOWN DURING HIS VISIT U.S. END FYI.

2. ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION, MINFIN HAS SENT INQUIRY TO EMBASSY ASKING FOR STATUS REPORT REQUEST SUBMITTED THROUGH USAID FOR PL 480 AIPS FUNDING. AID PASSED TO EMBASSY AND THIS SUBMITTED TO DEPARTMENT IN ISLAMABAD 6408. WE HAVE GIVEN INFORMAL INTERIM REPLY THAT MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

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3. ANOTHER POSITIVE STEP FOR FUTURE OPERATION AIPS SUPPORT FUNDS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN USEF/P PROGRAM PROPOSAL ON ANNUAL BASIS. ACCORDING TO EXPRESSED WISH MINISTRY EDUCATION FUNDS SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH USEF/P WITH JOINT SECRETARY AND CCAO FORMING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONTROL PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND DISBURSEMENTS.

4. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO EAD AND MINISTRY EDUCATION POSITIVELY SAYING THAT WHILE FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW IT ESSENTIAL AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES MAKE FIRM COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE VIABILITY AIPS, IF THIS SUPPORT FORTHCOMING WE PREPARED TO BACK PROJECT. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE THAT USG COMMITS ITSELF TO SUPPORT AIPS THROUGH PL 480 FSC, IF RPT IF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AGREE EXTEND ACCEPTABLE LEVEL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

5. EMBASSY REQUESTS COMMENTS AND INSTRUCTION REF PARAS 3 AND 4 SOONEST.
SOBER

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